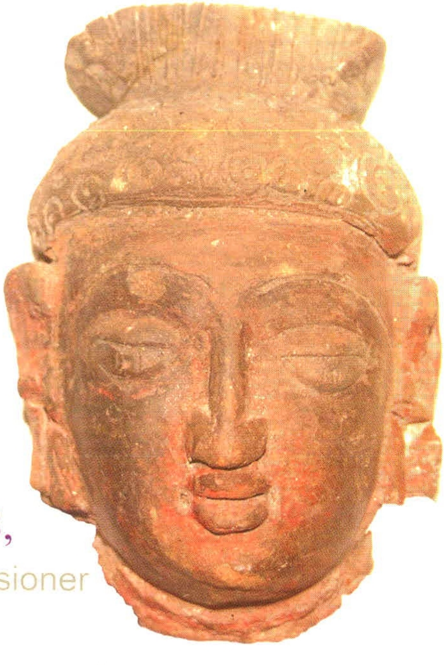
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANTIQUITIES

A CATALOGUE

(with Special reference to Terracotta)



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Dr. T.S. Sridhar, IAS,

Principal Secretary & Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY
GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
CHENNAI - 600 008

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Dr. T.S. Sridhar IAS,
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GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

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PREFACE

Archaeological evidences from exploration and excavation play a significant role in unravelling the cultural and social conditions that prevailed in ancient past and thus helps historians and archaeologists to trace out the cultural and trade links of a region. Terracotta figurines (Terracotta-Fired clay in Latin), one of the archaeological artefacts throw light on the social aspect of a race and their mode of life. Ancient terracotta in India is mostly connected with culture and these images, made by mould or hand with artistic excellence serve as vital tool for anthropologists, historians and archaeologists for reconstructing the cultural links.

Terracotta figurines dealt in this book are mostly obtained from exploration and excavations conducted by the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology. These figurines are housed in the exhibit hall in of Tamil Nadu State Department of Archeology in Chennai, Site Museum at Thirumalai Nayakkar Mahal, Madurai and Site Museum at Coimbatore. They are classified and presented with brief notes along with photographs. Of the 32 sites excavated by this department. Terracotta figurines are unearthed only from nine sites namely Alagankulam, Modur, Andipatti, Perur, Sendamangalam, Poompuhar, Mangudi, Tirukoilur and Korkai.

These terracotta figurines especially from Boluvampatti in Coimbatore District reflect the cultural contact of people in Kongu region with Northern Gangetic plains during 3rd Century CE. Besides this, figurines unearthed from Alagankulam, Ramanathapuram District give us the clear picture on Maritime trade contact of this part of peninsular India with western countries especially with Rome during 1st Century C E. Apart from this terracotta figurines collected in Korkai excavation throw light on the fertility cult that prevailed during Sangam period in this region. More so, collections of terracotta figurines mentioned in this book guide us to understand the coiffure style, type of head gear and earlobes that existed in ancient Tamil Nadu.

I am thankful to the Govt. of Tamilnadu having provided sufficient funds for this publication. I wish to compliment Mr. K.S. Sampath, Epigraphist, Mr. S. Sreekumar, Technical Assistant, Mr. M.T. Sridharan, Photographer and for their relentless efforts in bringing out this publication. I express my thanks to Dr. R. Poongundran, Assistant Director [Retired] for his write up on literary evidences for terracotta figurines. Also, I thank Dr. S. Vasanthi, Archaeologist, Chennai, Mr. D. Gopalan, Archaeological Officer, Madurai, Mr. P. Gouthamaputhran, Mr. R. Sivanantham, Epigraphist and Mrs. B. Valarmathi, P.A. to Commissioner for their help in bringing out this catalogue.

T. S. Sridhar

Principal Secretary &
Commissioner of Archaeology

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[with special reference to Terracotta]

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANTIQUITIES - A CATALOGUE

[with special reference to Terracotta]

Introduction:

Archaeology a key to the past, plays a vital role in reconstructing history and cultural changes of humankind, effected with the available source materials and climatic condition through ages. The change in life style, from nomadic life to civilized, usage of stone tools for hunting to advance weapons like guns, and usage of earthen ware utensils to metal ware, has also undergone a modification right from Pre-Historic to Historic period. Technological development in the human evolution is witnessed through the material remains recovered from surface collections and excavated antiquities. The art of communication also underwent drastic changes from mere representation by gesture & sound and depicting their ideas in rock art to verbal communication and depicting in paintings in natural dyes during the Historical period.

The artefacts exposed on the natural mounds and the slopes after a slash of rain furnish clues to hidden past culture of a region. Archaeologists engage themselves in unravelling the past Socio-Cultural conditions with authenticated evidences unearthed from excavation trenches laid at potential sites which are mostly mounds or river terraces, an ideal site for habitation.

Stone implements, Iron Implements, pottery, Beads, coins and terracotta figurines, etc., left behind by our

ancestors, are obviously good reflector of past Socio-Cultural condition and help us to trace the cultural modification effected by available raw materials.

Literary evidence about Terracotta:

Terracotta figurines were referred to in Sangam literature. In "Ainkurunuru" one of the eight anthologies a reference (verse 246) is mentioned about terracotta figure of a tiger. It must have been a life size figure. This figure is said to have been erected for keeping the elephants away from millet fields. In epic literatures many such references are seen. Most of the references are about terracottas which were the works of urban artists. In Silappadikaram there is a reference about terracotta artists [மண்ணீட்டாளர்]. According to the author of this epic many terracotta figurines were kept at the tower with seven stairs. Also in some worshipping places [மன்றம்] some terracotta figurines were kept for worship. Some tribal settlements (Pastoral, mountain, riverine and littoral region) had used the terracotta figurines of their gods for worship. Sathukapudam (deity of cross road) must have been a terracotta figure.

In Manimegalai sixth canto which describes about Sakkara valakottam otherwise called as funeral ground. At this place a terracotta work was kept which depicts the universe. The universe was described in accordance with Buddhist ideas about universe. An interesting archaeological find was unearthed at Pandunivas near Anurahapura. This archaeological find has confirmed the description of universe in Manimegalai.

Apart from this, some of the terracotta figurines unearthed from the Modur site in Dharmapuri district have

shed light on the transitional period of Neolithic and Megalithic age.

Terracotta, Observation & Classification:

The material from which most ancient pottery and other fired clay object were made. Literally, terracotta is 'baked earth'; it is incompletely fired and porous. Terracotta is the term commonly applied to define any clay objects made for worshipping, votive purpose and gamesman. Fine to crude nature of terracotta figurines are mostly based on the availability of clay varieties in a particular region. Firing technique adopted also varied from sun baked to burnt in fire through ages. The terracotta figurines of animals and birds throw light on the fauna of that region. It also infers the domestication of animals, region wise. Since terracotta are made of earthy matter, it has preserved till date even after a long burial and thereby provide valuable information on past culture.

Terracotta figurines from surface collection and excavation are mostly in broken state. However, we occasionally encounter the occurrences of fully preserved figurines. Most of the figurines are found without the hands and legs. Some of them are found to be defaced. The salient features observed from the collections of Human figurines are listed below.

1. Squatted position
2. Long ears with hole
3. Earlobe
4. Waistband
5. Ornament around neck

6. Headgear
7. Flat and long nose

On the basis of the figures depicted by terracotta form, terracotta figurines are classified in the following pattern. These will, certainly, gives us clear picture in understanding the Fauna, Flora and mode of life led by our ancestors in ancient Tamil Nadu having a part of this southern peninsular India. Total number of terracotta figurines that are dealt in this book accounts to hundred.

1. Birds
2. Animals (Domestic and Wild)
3. Female and Male Figure
4. God and Goddess

Terracotta from excavation & Significance:

Terracotta figurines presented in this book are the collections of exploration and excavation conducted at various districts of Tamil nadu. They are identified and classified with utmost care and descriptions are in simple language for better understanding of all section of people. Most of the terracotta figurines are crude in nature and are of coarse red variety. Except few, which are, red slipped in nature.

Out of thirty two excavations conducted by the State Department of Archaeology, nine sites yielded invaluable terracotta figurines. In this juncture, it is necessary to describe terracotta figurines with brief report on excavation to know the cultural habitation of that area.

Korkai:

Korkai, a capital and an important port of Early Pandya, lies at a distance of three north of River Tamaraparani (Latitude of 8 38' 20" N and Longitude of 78 03'34" E). The Tamil Sangam and the classical geographers of the western countries have left copious references to this port. Excavation at Korkai has revealed consecutive periods of occupation of three main periods.

Excavation yielded potsherds with graffiti marks, inscribed sherds datable to 3rd Century BCE, beads, and shell bangle pieces. Besides this, terracotta figurine unearthed from the trench-5 (KRK-5) - at 1.83 mts depth invaluable to the prevalence of Fertility cult in this region.

Tirukoilur:

Tirukoilur, on the southern bank of river Pennar, is located at 40 kms from Villupuram, Villupuram District. It was the capital of Malayaman chieftain of the Sangam age.

Excavation conducted here yielded amphorae pieces, red slipped ware, red ware, pottery pieces with graffiti marks and potteries of late period datable from100 BCE to 1300 CE. In the course of excavation terracotta figurines of Mother Goddess and Female figure on a pot, which is primitive in character. These findings throw light on the worship of Goddess in this region. Other noteworthy findings include Terracotta foot (TRK-4) and Torso of a female figure from trench-5.

Modur:

Modur is located at 15 km from Dharmapuri district, Palacode taluk, Dharmapuri District (Latitude: 12^{0} 13' N and

Longitude: 78 10' E). Excavation in three habitational mounds yielded good number of Neolithic Celts, Rubbing stones, Hammer stones, grinding stones, megalithic appendages. Besides this, terracotta figurines viz Mother Goddess and Ram were also recovered. Three cultural sequences were identified with help of antiquities unearthed here.

The Mother Goddess unearthed from the trench-11 (MDR-11) is a broken one and bust alone exposed. It is crude and solid and the interesting aspect is the beaked head and breast is fixed manually. It looks like anthropomorphic figure and similarity with that of pre historic paintings at Kilvalai. In addition to this, a standing Mother Goddess was also obtained at the depth of 1.00 mt depth from MDR-7. Elongated ears with ear lobes and neck ornaments are seen. Headress is highly ornamented and looks like 'Jata Maguda' form. It is in nude form. Third interesting antiquity is a sheep recovered at the depth of 0.90 mt. The occurrences of this kind of sheep have been reported from excavation conducted in northern regions of India.

Andipatti:

Andipatti, located at 15 km from Chengam town, in Chengam taluk, Tiruvannamalai District. The systematic excavation was carried out by the State Department of Archaeology in the year 2004-05.

Excavation at two sites namely Nattamedu and Sambalmedu yielded pottery of Megalithic and Historic periods. Pottery collection include Black and Red ware sherds and Coarse red ware sherds. On the basis of unearthed antiquities, it is ascertained that this site had been continuously occupied since 1st Century BCE through 12th

Century CE. Two cultural periods were demarcated. Among these collections of terracotta figurines, mostly broken human parts viz hand and leg portion and Mother Goddess are noteworthy. These terracotta figurines throw light on the votive offering in the early historical period.

Sendamangalam:

Sendamangalm is situated at 15 km from Ulunthurpettai, in Ulunthurpettai taluk, Villupuram District. It was the capital town of Kadava Chiefs during 13th Century. A brass seal, containing the royal emblem of the Pandyas i.e. two fishes and the royal whip, belonging to the 13th century CE was collected from this place during surface exploration. Hence, a systematic excavation was conducted at Maligaiveli and Kottaimedu near Kuyavanodai here by the State Department of Archaeology in the year 1993-1994 and good number of artefacts was collected.

In the course of excavation, brick well and fort wall were exposed. The antiquities unearthed include Megalithic appendages and Historical period antiquities. Terracotta figurines were also recovered from trenches. Two cultural periods were demarcated. The remarkable findings include miniature form of crawling Krishna which is black in colour and crude in nature.

Mangudi

The Archaeological excavation was conducted at Mangudi in Tirunelveli district by the State department of Archaeology in the year 2002. The excavation brought to light several microlithic tools. This was the earliest cultural deposit found in the trenches. The occurrences of microliths

in the stratified layers were very clear at Mangudi. A sterile layer below the megalithic cultural phase was also noticed. Under this sterile layer the microliths were found. From this it can be assumed that after the microlithic phase the area was not occupied, and later on the megalithic people occupied this area. In the course of excavation a terracotta figurine of female was also collected. The microlithic tools are also found in nearby villages namely Arugankulam, Puttur, Cholapuram and Thenmalai.

Alagankulam

Alagankulam is a village situated on the east coast in Ramanathapuram Taluk and District. The village is situated on the banks of the river Vaigai and is about three kilometers away from the sea-shore.

The most significant findings of the excavation are hundreds of potsherds, of the Mediterranean region. They include Arretine Ware, Rouletted ware and Amphore jar pieces. The Arretine ware is a reddish ware made of clay and it belongs to the imperial Rome world. Pieces of red ware with Tamil Brahmi letters have also been found. They are assignable to the first century BCE. Other unearthed antiquities include beads, perforated tiles, and bricks. Three Roman coins were unearthed. They contain the figure of the head of the Roman Emperor on obverse and the figure of victory, holding a globe on reverse. The legend on them shows that these coins were issued by the Roman Emperor Valentine II who ruled around 375 CE.

Poompuhar

Poompuhar, situated at the confluence of river Cauvery with the sea, was a flourishing port city and the second

capital of the Cholas in the Sangam period. It is situated in Sirkazhi Taluk of Nagappattinam District. Department of Archaeology conducted excavation at Kizharveli and Dharmakulam areas. The Kizharveli excavation revealed two brick walls, running North east-South west at a depth of 20 cms. Soft clay had been used as binding material. These two brick walls were placed wide apart and provided with platforms, the intention being that there should be free movement of water. Four wooden poles were found to have been made of palmyra tree trunk and the other two made of iluppai tree trunk (bassia longifolia). This structure seems to have served as a wharf in the 4th century CE. Besides this, excavation at Poompuhar yielded good number of terracotta figurines.

Perur

Perur, once known as Kanchivaiperur is situated in a strategical location near Coimbatore. From July-October 2002, the Department of Archaeology conducted excavations in this site at two locations namely Kallimedu inside the Santhalinga Ramasamy Adigalar College Campus and Thiruneetrumedu.

An important find from this site is a circular terracotta seal having the figures of bow surrounded by two lamps and a crescent above engraved on it. This is supposed to be the Chera emblem. Another significant find is a broken portion of the terracotta figurine assignable to 5th and 6th centuries CE. It resembles the figures found in excavations conducted at Mathura in Utterpradesh. Various objects like shell bangle pieces and beads made of semiprecious stones were also found in this excavation. During excavation three terracotta figurines were recovered from the trenches.

Most remarkable findings among collections are Terracotta figurines from Korkai, Tuticorin District, Alagankulam, Ramanathapuram District and Boluvampatti, Coimbatore District. The recovered terracotta figurines from Korkai infers us the practice of Fertility cult in that region in Pre-Sangam period. Terracotta figurines collected from Boluvam-patti, especially stands a good example to establish the contact of Kongu country with the Mauriya region during 6th Century CE. The salient features namely curly hair, Round Headgear and type of coiffure, and Physical features are typical of Mauryas. Likewise terracotta figurines from Alagankulam, preciously throw light on the trade contact of Romans with the Tamils on the East coast during the 1st Century CE.

Terracotta figurines with curly hair are undoubtedly the influence of Buddhism in early historical period. Terracotta of Poompuhar, Nagapattinam District and Boluvampatti, Coimbatore District, terracotta figurines exclusively depicted with curly hair and thereby throw light on the Buddhist influence in that region in the Sangam period. It is well known that Poompuhar located at the confluence of River Cauvery referred to in Sangam literature which also mentions the visit of Chinese Ambassador and Pilgrimage. Likewise, terracotta figurines with curly hair from Boluvampatti also throw light on the Buddhist influence. But, most of the terracotta figurines collected in Tamil Nadu found with tuft and matted hair coiffure. This hair dress infers that the practice of having tuft was the common features in the southern part of India, especially in Tamil Nadu. Terracotta figurines with matted hair undoubtedly refer to God Dakshinamurthy.

Geology of Tamil nadu :

Geologically, Tamil Nadu chiefly comprises Archaean hard rocks formation except along the coast belt where marine sedimentary formations belonging to Cretaceous and Tertiary ages, covered by recent alluvium, are found to occur. Mineral occurrences of different origin have been recorded in all these formations.

Archaean rocks mostly consist of Gneisses, Schists and Charnockites. The notable geological formation found in Tamil Nadu is Cuddalore formation belonging to Tertiary age. These formations are found to have plant fossils. Besides this, the occurrences of Upper Gondwana formation also noticed near Sriperumbudur (close to Chennai) and Satyavedu (A.P. State). These are composed mainly of white to pink clays, shale and felspathic sandstone.

Clay and Distribution:

Clay formation, sedimentary in origin, is universally available in abundant next to sand. Generally, we can encounter clay layers in every lakes and ponds. It is obvious that there is no life without clay, because domestic utensils of earthenware are based on the occurrences of clay.

Clay, an argillaceous sedimentary rock, includes all detrital deposits and their compacted representatives, in which the average size of grains is less than 0.01mm. Most clays, but not all, possesses the characteristic property of plasticity when wet. Kaolin, the purest type of clay, is not plastic in nature. Pottery clays are very plastic and highly aluminous clay which are practically free from iron. Brick clays are the more abundant varieties of clay containing fluxes, especially of iron and magnesium, which promote

fritting or incipient marginal fusion of the particles when they are burnt, thus binding the particles firmly together. The important deposits found in Tamil nadu are mentioned below.

Ramanathapuram:

Deposits of clay are reported in the Sivaganga area within Gondwana formation showing variegated colour. It has spread over an area of 2.59 sq.km and total reserve is about 4 million tonnes.

Pudukottai:

Red ochreous and yellow clays of impure grade occur near Chettipatti and Sengiri R.F in Tirumayam taluk. They are gritty in nature with low iron content. These clays are used in colour washing walls, houses, for pigments and manufacture of distempers.

White clays: Three small patches of white clay are found to occur around Kurumbur village in Aranthangi taluk. The clays are of low refractory nature and high in iron content.

Trichy:

Upper Gondwana clays occur east of Karai, Therani, Uttatur villages. These clays are used locally for superior type of pottery and also for the manufacture of saltglazed pipes, firebricks and electrical insulators. Alluvial clays of Coleroon River and sandy clays occurring over Cuddalore Sandstone are locally used for brick making.

Chingleput:

A large number of occurrences of clay are recorded from Gondwana formations. Vallam (12^{0} 54' N, 79^{0} 46' E), Mathur (12^{0} 53' N, 79^{0} 56' E) Vaiyapur (12^{0} 58' N, 79^{0} 58' E) Edapalaiyam (12^{0} 55' N, 79^{0} 53' E) Kannanthangal (12^{0} 58' N, 79^{0} 49' E) Kommanthangal (12^{0} 58' N, 79^{0} 50' E) Kilacheri (13^{0} 02' N, 79^{0} 51' E) Mappedu (13^{0} 02' N, 79^{0} 52' E) Sattarai (13 03' N, 79 51' E) Kallambedu (13^{0} 00' N, 79^{0} 50' E) Kannur (12^{0} 59' N, 79^{0} 52'E) are some of the important sites yielding clay deposits.

CONCLUSION

The art of making terracotta figurines needs skilful workmanship with imagination to represent it in realistic form. It is obvious that terracotta occupies a key role in the human evolution and it helps us to understand the socio-cultural changes, environmental conditions and fauna and flora of a particular region.

Terracotta either human, animal or bird form, are in miniatures in general. Terracotta figurines made of fine clay are smooth to touch while figurines of impure clay are crude in form. Most of them are solid except few which are hollow. Creation of terracotta figurines is, exclusively without iron rods for strengthening. However, the application of iron rods in the manufacture of terracotta figurines is effected in the late historical period.

Terracotta of primitive age is merely representation of human figure with close resemblance to prehistoric paintings. They are sun baked and features depicted in exaggeration. However, figurines of Sangam (contemporary to Megalithic) through historical period were created with all salient features. Coiffure, varying from region to region, depends upon climatic condition. As far as dressing is concerned, terracotta figurines of early Primitive age are represented without dress (naked form). With advent of civilization terracotta figurines were depicted with simple dress to cover lower part of body. The earliest forms of terracotta figurines are Mother Goddesses and fertility cult represented by female figures. During evolution of idea of

worship modified and represented in rock art to idol form. Since earthen clay was abundant and easily available, it was used by human to create Goddesses in terracotta form for worshipping to protect their tribes.

Terracotta figurines, in general, are dated based on the facial features, dress, coiffure, Headgear and ornaments. The identification of above such features guides us to trace its provenance and migration route, if possible. Relative dating of the antiquities are more or less precise. However, scientific method like Spectroscopy studies are also applied for better understanding.

Updated advance scientific studies, comparative studies of terracotta figurines with other regions of India will certainly pave way to fix tentative dating. Study of mineral contents will guide us to know the provenance of clay, used for the manufacture of pottery and terracotta, of native or foreign origin and helps to establish the trade contact of Indians with westerners in the Early Historical period. Ethnographical studies will also be an asset for the archaeologists to understand the development and usage of pottery and terracotta figurines in the ancient Tamil Nadu. Infact, we do find the practice of religious rituals on particular occasions in which local deities, mostly Amman, Ayyanar and other guardian deities are moulded in fresh clay and prayers were offered for welfare of their society. It is common site in every remote village in Tamil Nadu. It is inconclusive and information on terracotta figurines are to be collected after making good attempt in correlating with terracotta of other region.

It is summed up that the collection of terracotta figurines listed and discussed in this book has thrown light

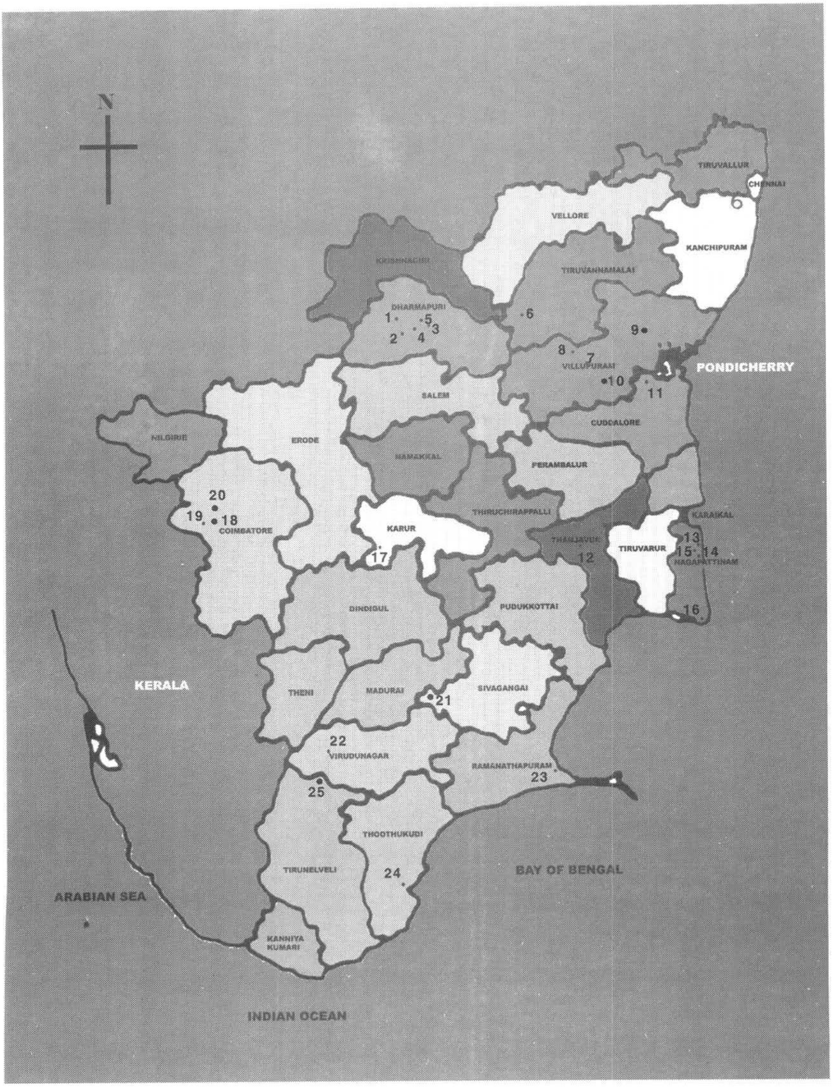
on the ancient maritime trade contact of this part of India with westerners, especially with the Romans. It is well attested with the authentic evidences collected from the excavation trenches laid at Alagankulam. The noteworthy antiquities recovered include Roman coins, Rouletted sherds, Roman Amphorae and sherds with Ship figure in graffiti form. Likewise, trade contact and blend of culture with regions of Kalinga and Magada has been gleaned through the terracotta of Boluvampatti in Coimbatore District. It is undoubtedly clear that the people in the Kongu area had cultural contact with north India during 6th Century C E.

Also, it is ascertained from the terracotta collections that the usage of earlobes, turban or headgear and ornament around neck were common in ancient society of Tamil Nadu. It is understood that worship of Mother Goddess in earthen form was prevalent and uniform throughout the State of Tamil Nadu in India.

PLACES OF FINDINGS

DISTRICT	PLACES
Dharmapuri	1. Panayakulam
	2. Indur
	3. Mattalampatti
	4. Kolahattur
	5. Modur
Tiruvannamalai	6. Andipatti
Villupuram	7. Tirukoilur
Villupuram	8. Jambai
Villupuram	9. Esalam
	10. Sendamangalam
Cuddalore	11. Akkadavalli
Thanjavur	12. Sekkadimedu [Srinivasapuram]
Nagappattinam	13. Poompuhar
	14. Tranquebar
	15. Melaperumpallam
	16. Kodikarai
Karur	17. Aravakurichi
Coimbatore	18. Perur
	19. Boluvampatti
	20. Kalikkanayakkanpalayam
Sivaganga	21. Kondagai
Virudunagar	22. Srivilliputhur
Ramanathapuram	23. Alagankulam
Tuticorin	24. Korkai
Tirunelveli	25. Mangudi

MAP OF TAMILNADU



MALE SEATED ON LION

Place of find : Akkadavalli
Taluk : Panruti
District : Cuddalore
Latitude : $11^{0}51'$ N
Longitude : $79^{0}31'$ E

It was found during exploration. Lion is well depicted. Head portion of the human figure is broken. This terracotta object is in Appliqué form and made of low grade clay. Tail is shown in upright position and the tongue of the lion is shown hanging down (Protruding out). Pedestal is seen.

Sitting posture infers that the human figure mounted on the lion may be a representation of God. Dimension of the figurine is 102 x 72 mm. Date of the antiquity may be 13th Century C E.

TORSO OF HUMAN

Place of find	: Alagankulam	**Latitude**	: 9^0 22' N
Taluk	: Ramanathapuram	**Longitude**	: 78^0 58' E
District	: Ramanathapuram		

It was unearthed from the trench-19 (AGM-19) at the depth of 0.55 mts during excavation. It may be identified as God sitting on pedestal. Belly portion is alone preserved in the collected figurine. Right hand is shown stretched and gripping the leg. One of the feet is slightly noticed in the antiquity. Dimension of the figurine is 34x35 mm. Date of the figurine may be assigned to 1st Century C E.

FEMALE MOTIF

Place of find : Alagankulam **Latitude** : 9^0 22' N

Taluk : Ramanathapuram **Longitude** : 78^0 58' E

District : Ramanathapuram

Female motif on the rim portion of a Roman pottery was recovered from the trench-18 (AGM-18) at the depth of 85 cm during excavation. Two female figures with lower garment are depicted with protruding lips. Both females are facing right direction and seem to be in procession. Row of bangles is shown in the right hand. They are holding Amphorae and net like materials in their hands. Dimension of the figurine is 34 x 54 mm. Date of the figurine may be fixed to 1st Century C E.

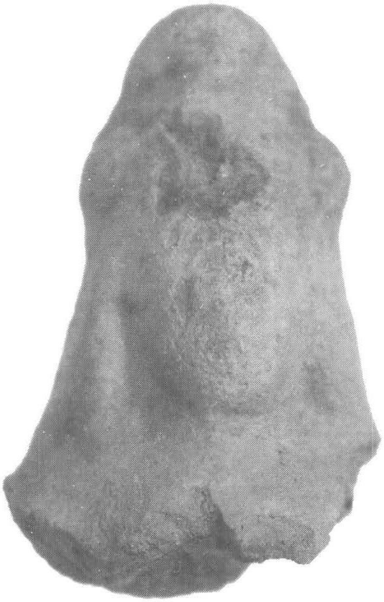
TORSO (Mother and Child)

Place of find : Alagankulam **Latitude** : 9^0 22' N

Taluk : Ramanathapuram **Longitude** : 78^0 58' E

District : Ramanathapuram

The unearthed antiquity is a hip portion of a female from excavation conducted at Alagankulam. It was recovered at the depth of 2.28 mt from the trench - 8 (AGM-8). It is identified to be mother holding her child whose is wearing anklet. She is in roman attire. This terracotta is made of fine clay. Dimension of the terracotta is 51 x 34 mm. It is datable to 1st Century C E.

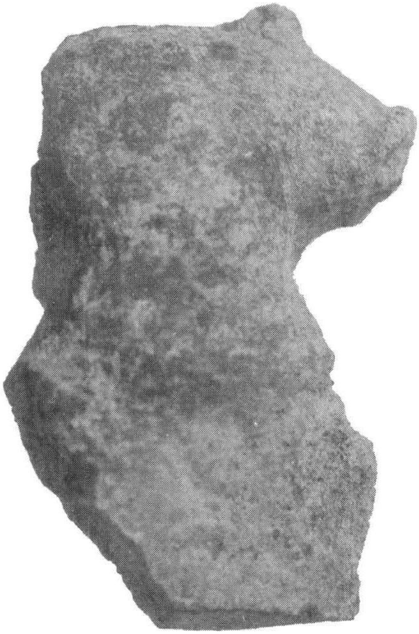


HEAD OF GODDESS

Place of find : Andipatti
Taluk : Chengam
District : Tiruvannamalai
Latitude : 12^{0} 13' N
Longitude : 78^{0} 44' E

It was unearthed from the trench -1 (APT-1, depth-33 cm) during excavation carried out in the year 2004-05. Face of the Goddess is completely defaced. Above the headgear figure of a serpent has been depicted. On account of this, unearthed terracotta figurine may be a Naga devada.

Measurement of the antiquity is 54 x 33 mm. It is assignable to 1st Century CE.



TORSO

Place of find	: Andipatti	Latitude	: 12^0 13' N
Taluk	: Chengam	Longitude	: 78^0 44' E
District	: Tiruvannamalai		

It was unearthed from the trench-6 (APT-6, Depth - 1.07 mt) during excavation (2004-05). The recovered antiquity is completely in defaced condition. Based on the features it was identified as male figure.

Dimension of the figurine is 58 x 53 mm. Period of the antiquity may be fixed 1st Century CE.

HAND WITH SHIELD (ARMOUR)

Place of find : Andipatti

Taluk : Chengam

District : Tiruvannamalai

Latitude : 12^{0} 13' N

Longitude : 78^{0} 44' E

It was unearthed from the trench -6 (APT-6, Depth - 0.75mt) during excavation (2004-05). Shield is shown with human face. Face may be a representation of Sun God.

Dimension of the antiquity is 59 x 49 mm. It is datable to 1st Century CE.

MOTHER GODDESS

Place of find	: Andipatti	**Latitude**	: 12^0 13' N
Taluk	: Chengam	**Longitude**	: 78^0 44' E
District	: Tiruvannamalai		

It was unearthed from the trench -3 (APT -3, depth-38 cm) during excavation conducted at this village by the Tamilnadu State department of Archaeology in the year 2004-05. Mother Goddess is depicted with prominent headgear and long ears with ear lobes. Right hand is shown raised to shoulder.

Dimension of the figurine is 103 x 87 mm. Period of the antiquity may be 1st Century CE.

ELEPHANT MOTIF

Place of find : Andipatti

Taluk : Chengam

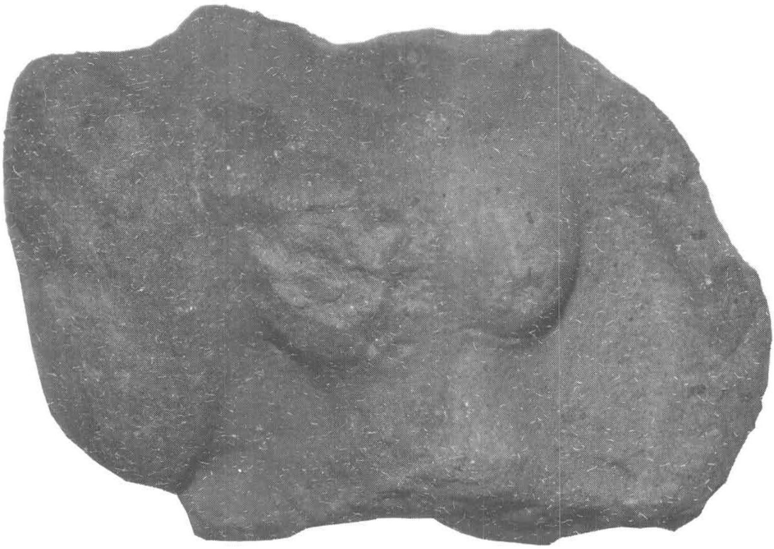
District : Tiruvannamalai

Latitude : 12^0 13' N

Longitude : 78^0 44' E

This elephant motif on casket was unearthed from the trench -9 (APT-9, Depth - 127cm) during excavation (2004-05) at Andipatti village. Two elephants are depicted on the casket in sublime position. It is ascertained that it may contain scenes of Jataka stories

Dimension of the antiquity is 47 x 67 mm. It is datable to 1st Century CE.

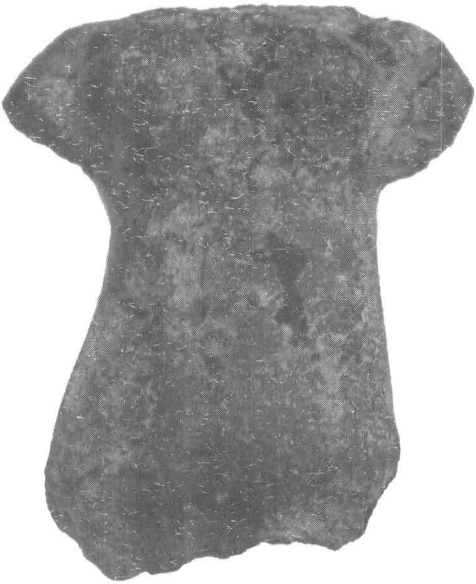


TORSO - FEMALE

Place of find	: Andipatti	**Latitude**	: 12^0 13' N
Taluk	: Chengam	**Longitude**	: 78^0 44' E
District	: Tiruvannamalai		

It was recovered during excavation from the trench-7. It is a torso of a female. One of the hands is on the hip while the other hand rose above the shoulder. Ornament around neck is noticed. One of the breasts is mutilated.

Dimension of the terracotta is 38 x 58mm. The date of the antiquity may be assignable to 8th century C E.



TORSO - FEMALE

Place of find : Andipatti

Taluk : Chengam

District : Tiruvannamalai

Latitude : 12^0 13' N

Longitude : 78^0 44' E

This female figurine without head was unearthed from the trench-9 (APT-9) during excavation (2004-05). Preserved antiquity exhibit Shoulder to waist portion. Features are not clear to identify.

Measurement of the terracotta figurine is 59 x 52 mm. Date of the antiquity may be assigned to 1st Century CE.

HAND OF HUMAN

Place of find : Andipatti

Taluk : Chengam

District : Tiruvannamalai

Latitude : 12^0 13' N

Longitude : 78^0 44' E

It was unearthed from the trench – 2 at the depth of 25 cm during excavation conducted at Andipatti (2004-05). The preserved antiquity is a part of human hand. The position of the hand is peculiar in form. It is crude in nature.

Dimension of the antiquity is 50 x 34 mm. Period of the terracotta may be assigned to12th Century CE.

LEG OF HUMAN

Place of find	: Andipatti	**Latitude**	: 12^0 13' N
Taluk	: Chengam	**Longitude**	: 78^0 44' E
District	: Tiruvannamalai		

It was unearthed from the trench during excavation conducted at Andipatti (2004-05). The collected terracotta is a leg portion of a human. It is crude in nature. It may be used for votive purpose. Measurement of the antiquity is 54 x 46 mm. It may be assigned to be 12th Century CE.

HAND OF HUMAN

Place of find : Andipatti

Taluk : Chengam

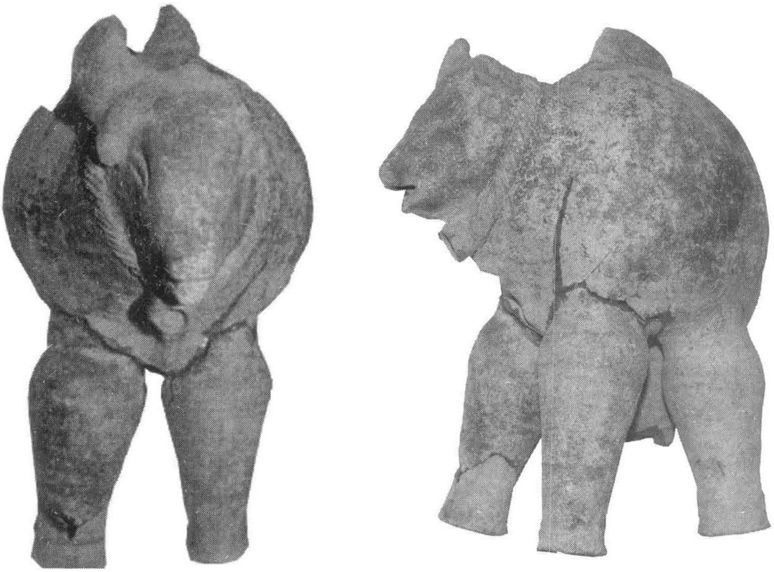
District : Tiruvannamalai

Latitude : 12^0 13' N

Longitude : 78^0 44' E

It was unearthed from the trench-9 at the depth of 1 mt during excavation at Andipatti (2004-05). Preserved terracotta figurine is hand portion of a human. It is ascertained that it might be used for votive purpose. It is crude in nature.

Dimension of the antiquity is 95 x 56 mm. It may be datable to 12th Century CE.



TERRACOTTA BULL

Place of find : Andipatti
Taluk : Chengam
District : Tiruvannamalai
Latitude : 12^0 13' N
Longitude : 78^0 44' E

This terracotta humped bull was unearthed from trench- 3 (APT – 3) at the depth of 80 cm. Leg position of bull is similar to the legs of Sarcophagus. It is in standing position with raised hump. Bell adorns the neck. It infers that domestication of animal in the region. This terracotta figurine is handmade and crude in nature. Mouth is slightly opened. One of the horns is broken. Skin in the neck portion is shown interlaced. Dimension of the terracotta figuring is 35 x 28 cm. Dated of the antiquity may be assigned to 3rd Century CE.

MOTHER AND CHILD

Place of find : Aravakurichi **Latitude** : 10^0 47' N

Taluk : Aravakurichi **Longitude** : 77^0 55' E

District : Karur

It was found during exploration from the above site. Mother (without head) is depicted feeding her child. She is more or less in squatted posture. She is shown wearing garment below hip portion. It is crude in nature. Dimension of the antiquity is 81 x 70 mm. It may be assignable to 6th Century C E.

BUST OF FEMALE

Place of find : Boluvampatti **Latitude** : 10^0 58' N

Taluk : Coimbatore **Longitude** : 76^0 48' E

District : Coimbatore

This terracotta figurine was found at the above site during exploration. Female figurine is depicted with ears with earlobes and headgear with two tiers. Face is mutilated in condition. Ornament around neck and breast are shown. Hands are broken.

Dimension of the figurine is 78 x 49 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

BUST OF FEMALE

Place of find	:	Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	:	10^0 58' N
Taluk	:	Coimbatore	**Longitude**	:	76^0 48' E
District	:	Coimbatore			

It was collected during exploration from the above said village. Female figurine is depicted with prominent round shaped tuft in the reverse side of the head. Ornament around neck is seen. Big size earlobes and round prominent breasts are shown. Left hand is broken and the right hand is holding something, is raised to shoulder.

Dimension of the figurine is 64 x 48 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

YAKSHA

Place of find	: Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

This terracotta figurine was collected from the above village during exploration. Terracotta figurine of man is depicted with prominent turban which is in two tiers. Thick lips and long ears with lengthy hole are noticed. Fan shaped hair dress is shown at the centre of the head. Measurement of the figurine is 69 x68 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

TORSO

Place of find :	Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

The collected figurine is from the above village during exploration. One of the legs is missing and the preserved one is in broken state. Likewise, one of the hands is missing and the other one is broken. It is depicted in squatted posture. Ornament with pendent around neck and earlobes are noticed. Beaded waist band is also seen.

It is measured to be 101 x 109 mm. Period of the antiquity may be fixed to 6th Century C E.

BUST OF FEMALE

Place of find	:	Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	:	10^0 58' N
Taluk	:	Coimbatore	**Longitude**	:	76^0 48' E
District	:	Coimbatore			

This bust of female without head gear was found at the site during exploration. Female figurine is depicted with long ears with big earlobes, long nose and lengthy lips. Eyes are shown in oval shape and closed in state. Ornament around neck is seen. Breasts are also shown.

Dimension of the figurine is 95 x 73 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

MAITREYA

Place of find	: Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

It was collected during exploration from the above said village. Face of the Maitreya is depicted with curly hair, thick lips and lengthy eyes above which thin eye brows shown in grooves. Ears are missing and nose is mutilated. Eyes are in closed form i.e in dhyana. Headgear is not seen.

Dimension of the terracotta is 120 x 74 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

HEAD OF HUMAN

Place of find	:	Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	:	10^0 58' N
Taluk	:	Coimbatore	**Longitude**	:	76^0 48' E
District	:	Coimbatore			

It was collected during surface exploration from the above said village. Face has been depicted with bulged and gored eyes, thick eye brow above left eye while the right eye brow not seen. Nose is mutilated. Ears also noticed. Kumkum (round) is prominently shown. It is ascertained to be used for a Tantric cult.

It is measured to be 79 x 36 mm. Date of the antiquity may be fixed to 18th Century C E.

HEAD OF HUMAN

Place of find	: Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

It was found during surface collection from the above said site. It may be identified as Nagakanni. This terracotta figurine is depicted with prominent eyes and eye brows, long neck and ornament (stud shaped) around neck. Mouth is mutilated and ears are preserved. It is also identified as Tantric figurine.

Dimension of the figurine is 102 x 46 mm. It may be datable to be 18th Century C E.

TORSO

Place of find : Boluvampatti

Taluk : Coimbatore

District : Coimbatore

Latitude : 10^0 58' N

Longitude : 76^0 48' E

It was found during surface collection from the above said site. The preserved terracotta figurine is seen without head and legs. All salient features are absent i.e., defaced. Ornament around neck is noticed. Dimension of the figurine is 92 x 76 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century CE.

HUMAN

Place of find	: Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

It was found during surface collection from the above said site. This terracotta figurine is in appliqué form. Head of the man is missing. One of the legs and hands are missing. The preserved hand is raised above shoulder. It is ascertained that the man is wielding some kind of arm. Long ornament is shown in line drawing up to navel.

It is measured to be 59 x 52 mm. Date of the figurine may be assigned to 6th Century C E.

YAKSHA

Place of find	: Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

This terracotta figurine was found during exploration from the above village. It may be the figure of Yaksha which is depicted with prominent headgear, long ears with ear lobes and thick lips. Ornament is shown around neck. Eyes are shown closed. He may be in dyana. Hair is intricately weaved to appear as shape of a fan. Legs and hands are in broken state. Beaded waist band is seen. He is in seated posture and naked.

Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 167 x 101 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century CE.

HEAD OF BUDDHA

Place of find	: Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

This terracotta figurine was found during exploration from the above site. Buddha is depicted with smiling face. He is shown with curly hair, long ears and closed eyes.

Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 86 x 74 mm. The date of the figurine may be datable to 6th Century CE.

HEAD OF BUDDHA

Place of find : Boluvampatti **Latitude** : 10^{0} 58' N

Taluk : Coimbatore **Longitude** : 76^{0} 48' E

District : Coimbatore

It was collected from the above village during exploration.

This Buddha head is shown with long nose and long ears. He is depicted with curly hair with fan shaped tuft at the centre of head. Pupil is clearly visible.

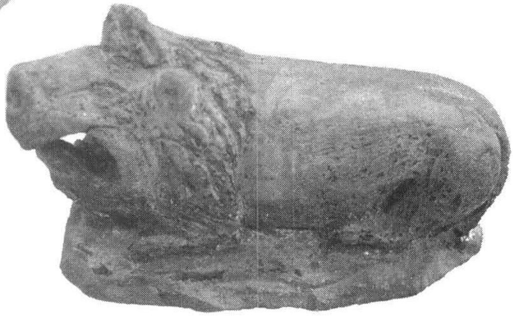
Dimension of the antiquity is 113 x 72 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century CE.

HEAD OF ELEPHANT

Place of find	: Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

It was collected from the above site during exploration. Elephant is depicted with short trunk which is in upward position and open mouthed. Teeth and tongue are prominently visible. It is crude in nature and the figurine is in panel form i.e., flat.

It is measured to be 131 x 134 mm. Date of the antiquity may be fixed 16th Century C E.



LION

Place of find : Boluvampatti **Latitude** : 10^0 58' N

Taluk : Coimbatore **Longitude** : 76^0 48' E

District : Coimbatore

The collected terracotta figurine from the above said village is a lion. It is depicted with open mouthed. All the salient features of an animal are well shown. Dimension of the figurine is 131 x 65 mm. Date of the terracotta may be assigned to 18th Century C E.

MAN ON LION

Place of find	: Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

It was found during surface collection from the above said site. It may be identified as Erambaganapathy. Head of the figurine is missing. One of the Lion's legs is seen with prominent claws.

It is measured to be 63 x 44 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

HEAD OF HUMAN

Place of find	: Boluvampatti	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 48' E
District	: Coimbatore		

This terracotta head of a human was collected from the above site during exploration. It is hollow in nature. Man is depicted with matted hair, flat nose and fan shaped hair dress which is at the centre of the head. Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 90 x 59 mm. Period of the antiquity may be assigned to 6th Century C E.

TORTOISE

Place of find : Boluvampatti **Latitude** : 10^0 58' N

Taluk : Coimbatore **Longitude** : 76^0 48' E

District : Coimbatore

It was found during surface collection from the above said site. It is a head of tortoise with open mouth. Eyes are prominent and tongue is clearly noticed. Shield of the tortoise is not preserved. On observation it is identified that preserved tortoise figure is shown up to tail part. It may be used for fertility cult.

Dimension of the figurine is 96 x 36 mm. Date of figurine may be fixed to 6th Century C E.

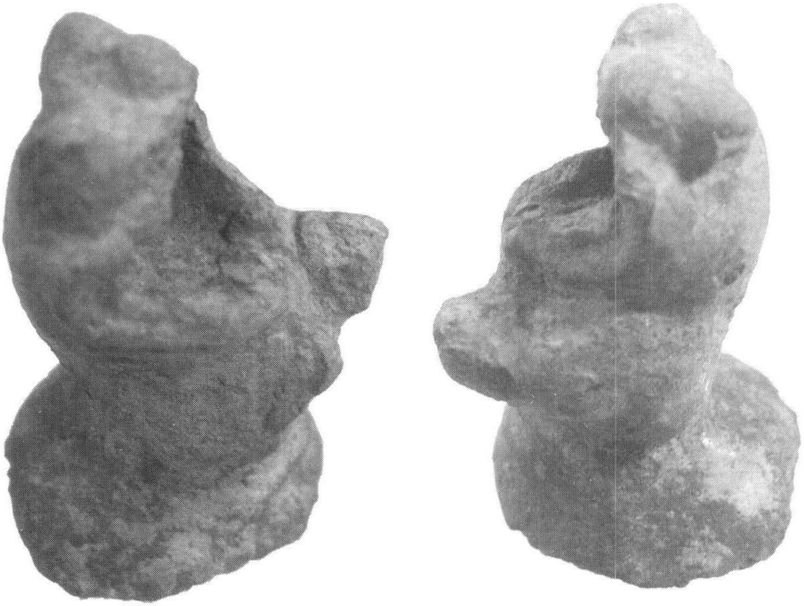
PARROT

Place of find : Boluvampatti **Latitude** : 10^0 58' N

Taluk : Coimbatore **Longitude** : 76^0 48' E

District : Coimbatore

It was found during surface collection from the above said site. Eyes and beak are mutilated. Wings are noticed. It is crude in nature. Dimension of the figurine is 98 x 89 mm. Date of the terracotta figurine may be assigned to be 6th Century C E.



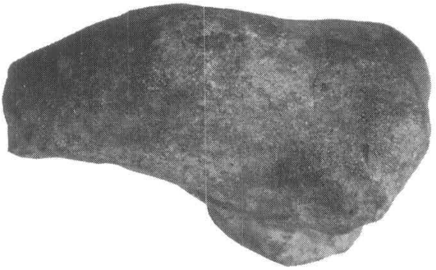
YALI

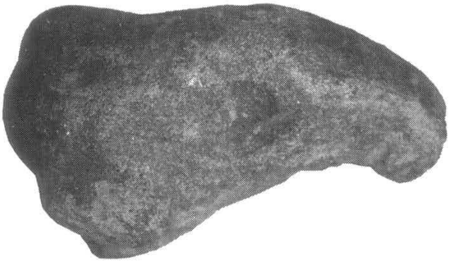
Place of find : Boluvampatti **Latitude** : 10^{0} 58' N

Taluk : Coimbatore **Longitude** : 76^{0} 48' E

District : Coimbatore

This terracotta figurine was found during exploration from the above said village. It is identified as mythical animal 'Yali'. The salient features are not well preserved. It is depicted with prominent eyes. Dimension of the figurine is 62 x 41 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.



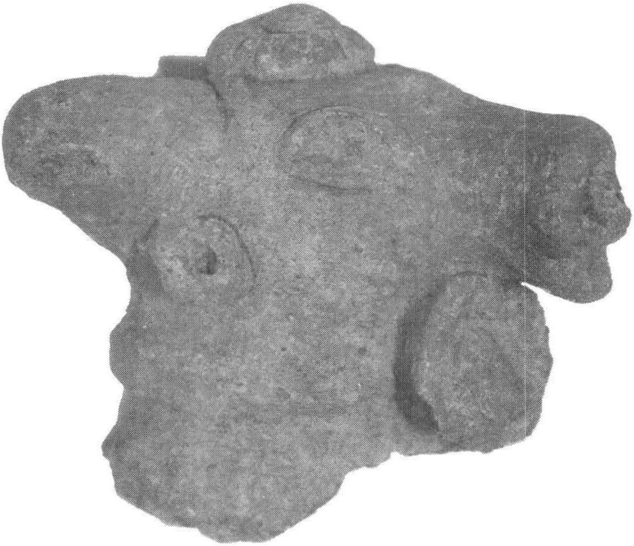


HEAD OF ELEPHANT

Place of find : Boluvampatti
Taluk : Coimbatore
District : Coimbatore

Latitude : 10^0 58' N
Longitude : 76^0 48' E

It was found during exploration from the above said village. The collected figurine is the head of elephant with broken tusk. Besides this, trunk of the elephant is also not preserved. The salient features are not able to notice as the preserved antiquity is slightly in corroded state. Dimension of the figurine is 66 x 43 mm. The date of the antiquity may be assigned to 6th Century C E.



HEAD OF BULL

Place of find : Esalam

Taluk : Villupuram

District : Villupuram

Latitude : 12^0 07' N

Longitude : 79^0 30' E

This terracotta figurine was collected from koilmedu of this village during exploration. The preserved terracotta has one horn while other one is broken. Bell is found tied around the neck. Nostrils are prominently shown. Mouth of the bull is open. There are some decorations on the head.

It is measured to be 86 x 98 mm. The period of the antiquity may be fixed to 17th Century C E.

HEAD OF BULL

Place of find : Esalam

Taluk : Villupuram

District : Villupuram

Latitude : 12^{0} 07' N

Longitude : 79^{0} 30' E

The collected terracotta figurine from kovilmedu of Esalam is a head of a bull. Both the horns are preserved. Mouth of the bull is flat and nostrils well shown. Eyes are prominently projected.

Measurement of the terracotta is 91 x 89 mm. Date of the antiquity may be assigned to 17th Century C E.

HEAD OF PIG

Place of find : Esalam

Taluk : Villupuram

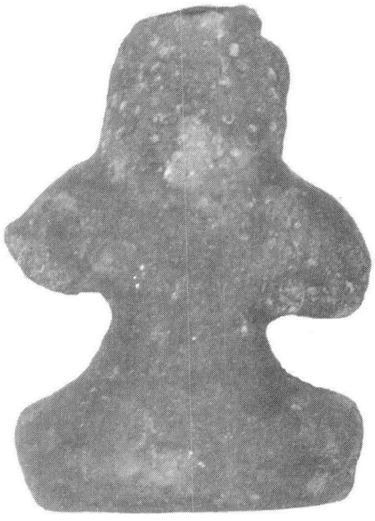
District : Villupuram

Latitude : 12^0 07' N

Longitude : 79^0 30' E

This terracotta was collected from the above site. Pig is depicted with prominent eyes and eye brows. Tongue is shown prominently. One of the ears is broken.

Measurement of the terracotta figurine is 69 x 64 mm. The date of the figurine may be fixed 17th Century C E.



YAKSHA

Place of find : Indur

Taluk : Dharmapuri

District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^0 08' N

Longitude : 78^0 04' E

It was found during exploration from the above village. The preserved antiquity has been depicted with long ears with earlobe and curly hair. Ornament around neck is seen and legs & hands are broken. The terracotta figurine is naked and in squatted position.

Dimension of the antiquity is 147 x 108 mm. Period of the terracotta figurine may be fixed 6th Century C E.

HEAD OF ELEPHANT

Place of find : Indur

Taluk : Dharmapuri

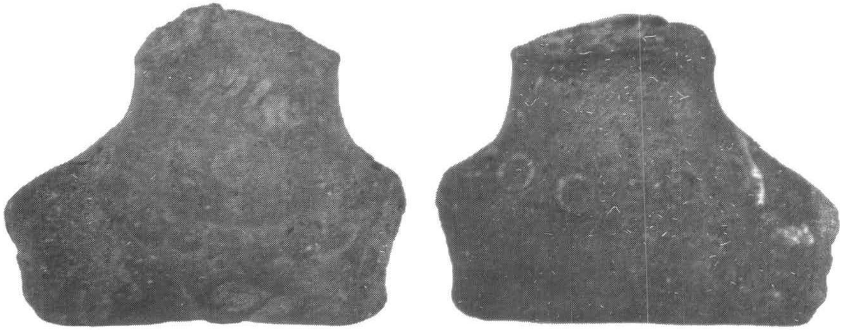
District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^0 08' N

Longitude : 78^0 04' E

The collected antiquity is head of an elephant and was found during exploration from the above site. The trunk portion of the elephant is in broken state.

Dimension of the antiquity is 76 x 51 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.



HIP OF HUMAN

Place of find : Indur

Taluk : Dharmapuri

District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^0 08' N

Longitude : 78^0 04' E

It was found during exploration from the above village. Preserved terracotta is hip of a human. It is depicted in sitting posture. Beaded waist band is seen and it is shown wearing loin cloth. Legs are in broken state. Dimension of the antiquity is 65 x 82 mm. Period may be assigned to 6th Century CE.

HEAD OF FEMALE

Place of find : Jambai

Taluk : Tirukoilur

District : Villupuram

Latitude : 12^0 01' N

Longitude : 79^0 04' E

It was Collected in the course of exploration from the above site. Female figurine is well depicted with sharp nose, large eyes and prominent headgear. Dimension of the figurine is 68 x 37 mm. Date of the terracotta figurine may be assigned to 12th Century CE.

HEAD OF FEMALE

Place of find : Jambai

Taluk : Tirukoilur

District : Villupuram

Latitude : 12^0 01' N

Longitude : 79^0 04' E

This terracotta figurine was collected from the above village during exploration. Preserved antiquity is seen with prominent headgear. Face of the figurine is mutilated in state. Two studs in each ear are noticed. Dimension of the figurine is 72 x 48 mm. It may be assigned to 12th Century CE.

ELEPHANT ON PEDESTAL

Place of find	: Kalikkanayankkan-palayam	**Latitude**	: 11^0 01' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 55' E
District	: Coimbatore		

Elephant on pedestal terracotta figurine was found during exploration from the above village. The fore limbs are bend and hind limbs are kneeled down position. Trunk and tusk are not well preserved. Measurement of the terrecotta figurine is 73 x 70 mm. Date of the antiquity may be fixed 6th Century CE.

TORSO

Place of find : Kodikarai

Taluk : Vedaranyam

District : Nagapattinam

Latitude : 10^0 17' N

Longitude : 79^0 50' E

It was found during exploration from the above site. It may be a figurine of Balakrishna. Legs and hands are broken. Ornament around neck is seen.

Dimension of the antiquity is 84 x 80 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century CE.

YAKSHA

Place of find : Kodikarai
Taluk : Vedaranyam
District : Nagapattinam

Latitude : 10^0 17' N
Longitude : 79^0 50' E

The collected terracotta during exploration from Kodikarai is a Yaksha. The head and legs are in broken state. Coiffeur is in fan shaped form. Ornament around neck is seen. Long ears with ear lobes are seen. Figurine is depicted in squatted position.

Dimension of the figurine is 149 x 87 mm. Period may be fixed to 3rd Century CE

HEAD OF GOD

Place of find : Kolahattur
Taluk : Dharmapuri
District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^0 11' N
Longitude : 78^0 09' E

It is a head of God (Dakshinamurthy) collected during exploration. God is depicted with closed eyes, matted hair and thick lips. Ears and nose are in defaced condition. Dimension of the antiquity is 67 x 65 mm. Period of the terracotta figurine may be 6th Century C E.

SHOULDER OF MAN

Place of find	: Kolahatur	**Latitude**	: 12^0 11' N
Taluk	: Dharmapuri	**Longitude**	: 78^0 09' E
District	: Dharmapuri		

It was collected during exploration from the above mention village. Ornament around neck is noticed in the preserved antiquity. Pendent is also seen. Both the hands of the Terracotta figurine are broken. Earlobes are also noticed. Dimension of the figurine is 52 x 77mm. Date of the antiquity may be assigned to 6th Century CE.

HEAD OF MAN

Place of find : Kondagai **Latitude** : 9^0 51' N

Taluk : Manamadurai **Longitude** : 78^0 12' E

District : Sivaganga

The terracotta of human head was collected during exploration from the above said site. Face is broad and depicted with oval shape eyes. Thilk is seen at the temple. Eyes and eye brows are in line drawing. Long ears with ear lobes are also noticed in the antiquity. Mouth and nose are mutilated in state. Ornament around neck is also noticed. Dimension of the figurine is 140 x 130 mm. The date of the figurine may be assigned to 12th Century C E.

HEAD OF MAN

Place of find : Kondagai
Taluk : Manamadurai
District : Sivaganga
Latitude : 9^0 51' N
Longitude : 78^0 12' E

The terracotta of human head was found during exploration from this village. Face of man is long with long nose. Eyes and eye brows are shown in line drawing. Tuft at the centre of the head is seen. Mouth and ears are also preserved in the collected antiquity. It is crude in nature. Dimension of the figurine is 150 x 110 mm. It may be datable to 12th Century C E.

HUMAN

Place of find : Kondagai

Taluk : Manamadurai

District : Sivaganga

Latitude : 9^0 51' N

Longitude : 78^0 12' E

It was found during exploration from the above site. This terracotta figurine of human is depicted with long ears with ear lobes. Hand and legs are broken. Nose and mouth are well shown. Human is in sitting posture. Curly hair and ornament around neck are noticed. Dimension of the figurine is 330 x 210 mm. Date of the figurine may be assigned to 12th Century C E.

HEAD OF HUMAN

Place of find : Kondagai
Taluk : Manamadurai
District : Sivaganga

Latitude : 9^0 51' N
Longitude : 78^0 12' E

It was found during exploration from the above said village. Eyes and eye brows are in line drawing. It is depicted with long nose and large mouth with thick lips. Head dress and ears are missing in the collected antiquity. Dimension of the figurine is 130 x 135 mm. Date of the figurine may be fixed to 12th Century CE.

FEMALE

Place of find : Kondagai

Taluk : Manamadurai

District : Sivaganga

Latitude : 9^0 51' N

Longitude : 78^0 12' E

It was found during exploration from this village. Hair dress of the figurine is not well preserved. Ornament with dollar around neck is seen. The terracotta figurine of female is depicted with long ears with ear lobes. Breast and novel are noticed. Eyes in line drawing and thick lips are seen. Hands are broken and nose is in mutilated state. Dimension of the figurine is 180 x 130 mm. Date of the figurine may be assigned to 12th Century C E.

HEAD OF MAN

Place of find : Kondagai

Taluk : Manamadurai

District : Sivaganga

Latitude : 9^0 51' N

Longitude : 78^0 12' E

This head of human was collected during exploration from this village. Eyes are big in size and oval in shape. Eyes and eye brows are shown in line drawings. Hair dress is depicted with nail impressions. Mouth is wide and slightly opened. Dimension of the figurine is 130 x 90 mm. Date of the antiquity may be fixed to 12th Century CE.

BOAR

Place of find : Kondagai

Taluk : Manamadurai

District : Sivaganga

Latitude : 9^0 51' N

Longitude : 78^0 12' E

The terracotta figurine of boar was collected from this village during exploration. It is in standing posture. Hind limps of the boar are broken while the forelimbs are preserved in the collected antiquity. Eyes and nostrils are shown. Rope around neck of the animal suggests that boar was domesticated in this area in ancient time. It is measured to be 250 x 150 mm. Date of the figurine may be fixed to 12th Century C E.

BUDDHA

Place of find : Kondagai

Taluk : Manamadurai

District : Sivaganga

Latitude : 9^0 51' N

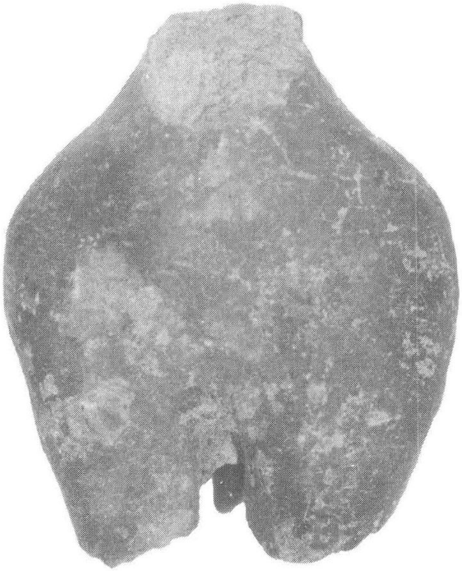
Longitude : 78^0 12' E

This terracotta figurine was collected during exploration from the above said site. Buddha is depicted with curly hair and thick lips. Eyes and eye brows are shown in line drawing. Long ears and nose is in mutilated condition. Thilak in forehead is also seen. Dimension of the figurine is 165 x 100 mm. It may be datable to 12th Century C E.

HEAD OF MAN

Place of find	: Kondagai	**Latitude**	: 9^0 51' N
Taluk	: Manamadurai	**Longitude**	: 78^0 12' E
District	: Sivaganga		

It was found during exploration from the above said village. Theis terracotta figurine of male is depicted with big eyes which are closed in form. Eyes are in oval shape. Long nose, long ears, thick lips and nostrils are also shown. Hair dress is not well preserved. Dimension of the figurine is 100 x 99 mm. It may be datable to 13th Century C E.



HIP OF FEMALE

Place of find	: Korkai	**Latitude**	: 8^0 38' N
Taluk	: Srivaigundam	**Longitude**	: 78^0 04' E
District	: Tuticorin		

It was unearthed during excavation from the trench - 5 at the depth of 1.83 mt. (KRK-5, II'-III', Layer-3). The recovered antiquity is the hip portion of a female, representing fertility cult. The pelvic region is wide and hip is narrow i.e., slender. Measurement of the terracotta figurine is 79 x 68 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

TORSO

Place of find : Mangudi

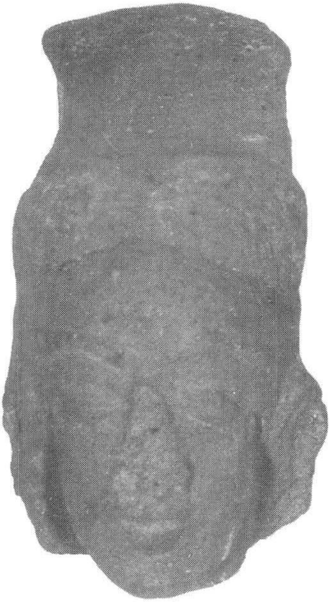
Taluk : Sankarankoil

District : Tirunelveli

Latitude : 9^{0} 21' N

Longitude : 77^{0} 31' E

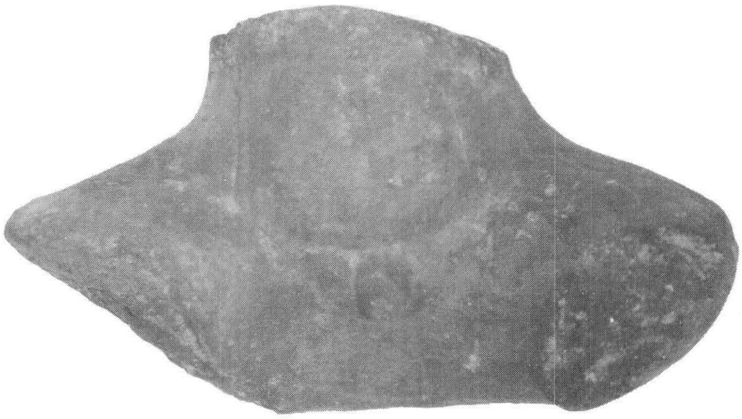
It was collected during surface exploration from the above said village. This torso of female is depicted with prominent breasts. Stomach is slim and slender. Ornament around neck is seen. This terracotta figurine of female is shown dressed below waist portion. Dimension of the figurine is 50 x 44 mm. It may be datable to 3rd Century C E.



HEAD OF MALE

Place of find	: Mattalampatti	**Latitude**	: 12^0 14' N
Taluk	: Palacode	**Longitude**	: 78 12' E
District	: Dharmapuri		

The head of a male was collected during exploration from the above site. Male figure is shown with elongated head gear and long ears. Nose is completely defaced. Eyes are in closed form. It indicates that he is in meditation. Dimension of the figurine is 83 x 44 mm. This figurine may be datable to 6th Century C E.



HIP OF HUMAN

Place of find : Mattalampatti   **Latitude** : 12^0 14' N

Taluk : Palacode   **Longitude** : 78^0 12' E

District : Dharmapuri

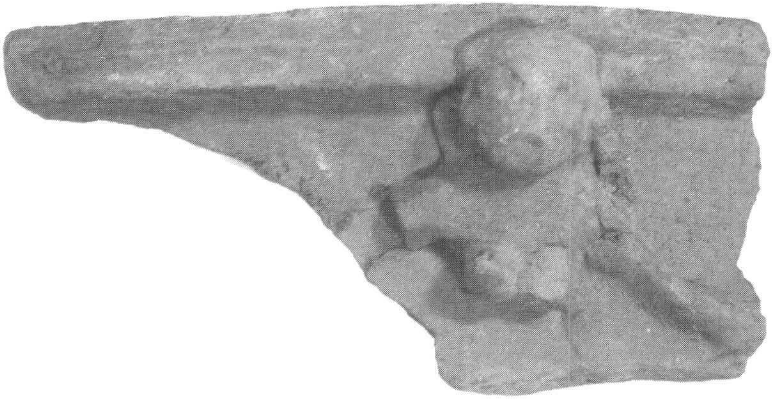
It was found during surface exploration from the above site. The preserved terracotta figurine is a male figure shown with male organ. Measurement of the terracotta figurine is 50 x 90 mm. The period of the antiquity may be assigned to 6th Century C E.

YAKSHA

Place of find	: Mattalampatti	**Latitude**	: 12^0 14' N
Taluk	: Palacode	**Longitude**	: 78^0 12' E
District	: Dharmapuri		

This terracotta figurine of Yaksha was collected during exploration from the above site. Yaksha is depicted with long ears with small earlobe and in squatted position. Head gear and hair dress are not traceable as it is partially preserved in the collected figurine. Face is in highly mutilated condition.

Dimension of the figurine is 115 x 84 mm. This terracotta figurine may be datable to 6th Century C E.



FEMALE MOTIF ON POT

Place of find	: Melaperumpallam	**Latitude**	: 11^{0} 08' N
Taluk	: Sirkazhi	**Longitude**	: 79^{0} 49' E
District	: Nagapattinam		

The motif of female figure on the rim portion of an Urn was collected from the above village during exploration. Face of the female figure is completely mutilated. Bust portion alone preserved. One of the breasts is broken.

Dimension of the terracotta is 82 x 169mm. Period of the figurine may be datable to 1st Century C E.

FEMALE MOTIF ON POT

Place of find : Melaperumpallam **Latitude** : 11^0 08' N

Taluk : Sirkazhi **Longitude** : 79^0 49' E

District : Nagapattinam

It was found during exploration from the above site. It is a female figure, most probably young, depicted in motif form on the rim position of a pot. Hand is hanging and shown stretching wide open. Hair dress is shown in peculiar style. This terracotta figurine of female is depicted with upper garment and waist band. Thigh is shown bulged and left hand is rested on thigh. The dimension of the antiquity is 130 X 100 mm. Date of the figurine may be assignable to 4th Century C E.

FEMALE MOTIF ON POT

Place of find : Melaperumpallam **Latitude** : 11^0 08' N

Taluk : Sirkazhi **Longitude** : 79^0 49' E

District : Nagapattinam

It was found during exploration from the above site. It is a female figure, most probably old, depicted in motif form on the rim position of a pot. Bones of the fingers are visible. Head portion with hair dress is peculiar to notice. Upper garment is absent and waist band is noticed. Breasts are hanging down. Dimension of the antiquity is 120 X 80 mm. Date of the figurine may be assignable to 4th Century C E.

TERRACOTTA MOULD

Place of find : Modur

Taluk : Palacode

District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^0 13' N

Longitude : 78^0 10' E

This broken piece of the mould was recovered from the trench - 7 (MDR-7) at the depth of 1.20 mts. It is a mould of a human face. Eyes, nose and mouth parts are preserved in the collected figurine. The ears are shown with ear lobes. It is ascertained to be face of God Siva. This mould is made of lavigated clay and well fired. Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 47 x 50 mm. It may be datable to 1st Century CE.

SHEEP

Place of find : Modur **Latitude** : 12^0 13' N

Taluk : Palacode **Longitude** : 78^0 10' E

District : Dharmapuri

It was recovered from the trench-7 (MDR-7) at the depth of 0.90 mts. It is crude and black in nature. It is a miniature form of Sheep. Face of the Sheep is smaller compare to body. The occurrences of this kind of sheep have been reported from most of the excavations conducted in North and South India. It is measured to be 35 x 34 mm. It may be datable to 1st Century C E.

BEAKED FEMALE

Place of find	: Modur	**Latitude**	: 12^0 13' N
Taluk	: Palacode	**Longitude**	: 78^0 10' E
District	: Dharmapuri		

It was unearthed from the trench-11 (MDR-11) at the depth of 1.05 mts. It is solid one and female face is depicted with beak of a bird. It looks like an anthropomorphic figure. Breast is manually fixed. One of the breasts and hands are not preserved in the collected figurine. Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 41 x 51 mm. It may be assigned to Neolithic period.

HEAD OF GODDESS

Place of find : Modur

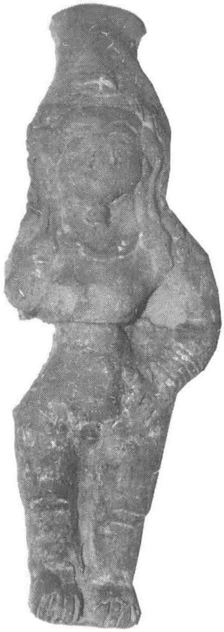
Taluk : Palacode

District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^0 13' N

Longitude : 78^0 10' E

It was collected during exploration from the above village. Terracotta of Goddess is depicted with ornamented head gear. Eyes are prominent and nose is in mutilated state. Ears are preserved. It is measured to be 89 x 63 mm. Date of the terracotta figurine may be assigned to 3rd Century CE.



GODDESS

Place of find	: Modur	**Latitude**	: 12^0 13' N
Taluk	: Palacode	**Longitude**	: 78^0 10' E
District	: Dharmapuri		

This terracotta figurine was collected from the trench-7 (MDR-7) at the depth of 1.00 mt. It is a standing Goddess. The hair dress is ornamented and resembles 'Jatamaguda' form. One of the hands is on the hip while the other is raised to shoulder i.e. it is in 'Abhaya mudra'. It is a nude form. Rows of bangles are shown in the left hand. Goddess is depicted with long ears with ear lobes and ornament around neck. It is measured to be 157 x 53 mm. Date of the figurine may be fixed to 1st Century CE.

HEAD OF HUMAN

Place of find : Panayakulam **Latitude** : 12^{0} 14' N

Taluk : Pennagaram **Longitude** : 78^{0} 03' E

District : Dharmapuri

Head of human was found during exploration from the above site. It is depicted with thick eyes and shown with decorated headgear. Earlobes and ornament around neck are seen. Dimension of the figurine is 37 x 28 mm. It may be datable to 13th Century CE.

HEAD OF HUMAN

Place of find : Panayakulam **Latitude** : 12^0 14' N

Taluk : Pennagaram **Longitude** : 78^0 03' E

District : Dharmapuri

It was collected from the above village during exploration. The headgear of the antiquity is broken. It is completely defaced condition. Long ears are seen.

Measurement of the figurine is 56 x 38 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

HEAD OF HUMAN

Place of find : Panayakulam **Latitude** : 12^{0} 14' N

Taluk : Pennagaram **Longitude** : 78^{0} 03' E

District : Dharmapuri

It was found during exploration from the above site. Hair dress is not identified as it is in highly corroded state. Nose is mutilated. Long ears are noticed. Eyes are in closed form i.e. in Dyana.

Measurement of the figurine is 63 x 35 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

FEMALE HEAD

Place of find : Panayakulam

Taluk : Pennagaram

District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^0 14' N

Longitude : 78^0 03' E

The head of the female figurine collected during exploration is depicted with all features in realistic form. She may be middle aged women. Ear ornament is seen. Measurement of the antiquity is 55 x 40 mm. Period of the terracotta figurine may be fixed 19th Century C E.

HEAD OF BIRD

Place of find	: Panayakulam	**Latitude**	: 12^0 14' N
Taluk	: Pennagaram	**Longitude**	: 78^0 03' E
District	: Dharmapuri		

The collected antiquity from exploration is identified as parrot. The salient features of parrot namely curved sharp beak and big & bulged eyes are well represented. Measurement of the terracotta figurine is 56 x 49 mm. It may be assignable to 13th Century C E.

MOTHER GODDESS

Place of find : Panayakulam

Taluk : Pennagaram

District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^0 14' N

Longitude : 78^0 03' E

It was collected during surface exploration from the above said village. It is depicted with flat nose, thick lips and long ears with ear lobes. Ornament around neck are shown. Right hand of the Mother Goddess is in Abhaya Mudra while the other hand is rested on the hip. Dimension of the figurine is 109 x 77 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

HEAD OF GOD

Place of find : Panayakulam **Latitude** : 12^0 14' N

Taluk : Pennagaram **Longitude** : 78^0 03' E

District : Dharmapuri

It was collected during surface exploration from the above said village. Head gear is broken. This terracotta figurine of God, probably, Dakshinamurthy, is depicted with thick lips, matted hair. Ears are long and eyes are shown in closed form. Dimension of the figurine is 67 x 55 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

GODDESS

Place of find : Panayakulam

Taluk : Pennagaram

District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^0 14' N

Longitude : 78^0 03' E

It was found during surface exploration from the above said Village. The collected figurine is depicted with thick lips, flat nose, and long ears with ear lobes. Ornaments around neck and hair dress are seen. Right hand is shown stretched wide while other hand is broken. Eyes is shown in closed form. Dimension of the figurine is 90 x 92 mm. Date of th figurine may be assigned to 6th Century C E.

HEAD OF HUMAN

Place of find : Panayakulam

Taluk : Pennagaram

District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^{0} 14' N

Longitude : 78^{0} 03' E

It was found during exploration from the above village. Headgear of the human figurine is in broken state. The eyes and mouth are shown in line drawings. Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 47 x 46 mm. Period of the antiquity may be assigned to 13th Century C E.

BUST OF HUMAN

Place of find : Panayakulam

Taluk : Pennagaram

District : Dharmapuri

Latitude : 12^{0} 14' N

Longitude : 78^{0} 03' E

It was found during exploration from the above village. Face of the figurine is in mutilated state. The terracotta figurine of the male is depicted with long ears with earlobes and thick lips, slightly opened. Curly hair is noticed. It may be correlated with the art of Madura. Hands and head gear are broken in the preserved antiquity.

Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 95 x 88 mm. Period of the antiquity may be assigned to 6th Century C E.

FACE OF YAKSHA

Place of find	: Perur	**Latitude**	: 10^0 58' N
Taluk	: Coimbatore	**Longitude**	: 76^0 55' E
District	: Coimbatore		

This terracotta figurine was collected from the trench-2 (PRR-2) at the depth of 0.53mts. Head dress above forehead is seen. Nose is mutilated and eyes are partially missing. Ears are not preserved. Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 31 x 39 mm. Date of the antiquity may be fixed to 6th Century C E.

BUST OF MAN

Place of find : Perur
Taluk : Coimbatore
District : Coimbatore

Latitude : 10^0 58' N
Longitude : 76^0 55' E

It was unearthed from the trench-2 (PRR-2) at the depth of 0.97 mts. This miniature terracotta figurine is depicted with slightly opened mouth. Eyes are round and attached separately. Since the man is with folded hand in the form of worshipping or welcoming, he may be a devotee. It is also ascertained that this antiquity may be used for votive or Tantric cult. Dimension of the figurine is 32 x 21 mm. It may be datable to 6th Century C E.

FEMALE FIGURINE

Place of find : Perur

Taluk : Coimbatore

District : Coimbatore

Latitude : 10^0 58' N

Longitude : 76^0 55' E

This terracotta figurine was recovered from the trench-1 at the depth of 0.50 mts. It is a miniature figurine. Eyes and mouth is shown in thick lines. Tuft is seen at the back side of the head. It is crude in nature. This terracotta figurine is depicted in sitting posture. It is ascertained that it may be used for Tantric cult. Dimension of the figurine is 32 x 17 mm. It may be datable to 6rd Century C E.

BUST OF HUMAN

Place of find : Pooompuhar

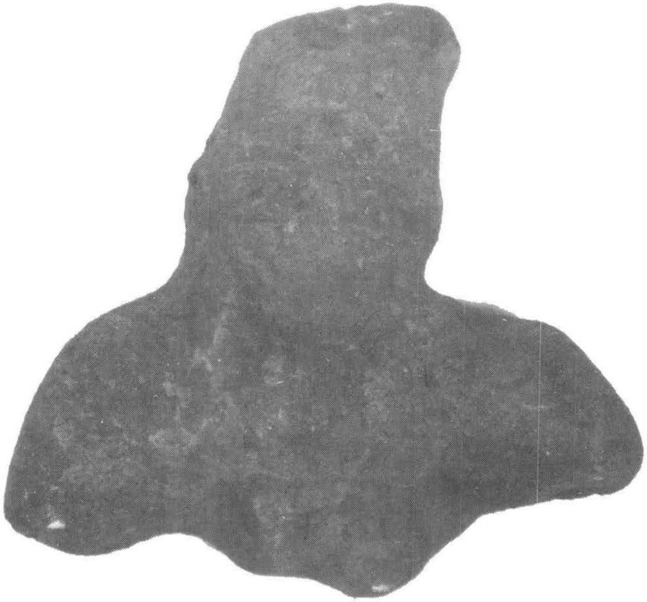
Taluk : Sirkazhi

District : Nagapattinam

Latitude : 11º 09' N

Longitude : 79º 52' E

It was recovered from the trench-4 (PMR-4) at 0.25 mt depth. In the preserved antiquity, head gear and hands are broken. It is observed that the human figure is depicted with ears with big earlobes and sharp nose resembling beak of a bird (Parrot). Ornament around neck is shown in line drawing. It is measured to be 81 x 89 mm. This antiquity may be datable to 6th Century C E.



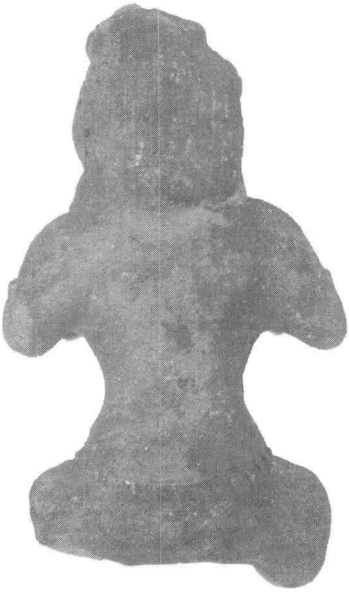
BUST OF HUMAN

Place of find : Pooompuhar **Latitude** : 11^0 09' N

Taluk : Sirkazhi **Longitude** : 79^0 52' E

District : Nagapattinam

It was found during exploration from the above site. Face of the antiquity is completely defaced and the hands are found broken. Eyes are projected in big size. Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 67 x 73 mm. It may be assignable to 6th Century C E.



HUMAN FIGURINE

Place of find : Pooompuhar
Taluk : Sirkazhi
District : Nagapattinam

Latitude : 11^0 09' N
Longitude : 79^0 52' E

It was collected during exploration from the above village. In the recovered antiquity legs and hands are in broken state. Ornament around neck is marked in lines drawing. The human figure is depicted with curly hair above forehead and ears with big earlobes. Dress is concerned loin cloth alone is shown. The eyes, ears and lips of the preserved terracotta figurine are completely defaced. Dimension of the figurine is 120 x 75 mm. Period of the antiquity may be assigned to 6th Century C E.

HEAD OF A BULL

Place of find : Poompuhar
Taluk : Sirkazhi
District : Nagapattinam
Latitude : 11^0 09' N
Longitude : 79^0 52' E

It was collected from excavation conducted a Poompuhar. It was recovered from 1.60 mt depth from the trench-10 (PMR-10). Eyes are shown in line drawing. Ears and horn are preserved. Bell is tied around neck and nostrils are shown clearly. It is measured to be 61 x 71 mm. Date of the antiquity may be assigned to 10th Century C E.

HUMAN FIGURINE

Place of find : Poompuhar

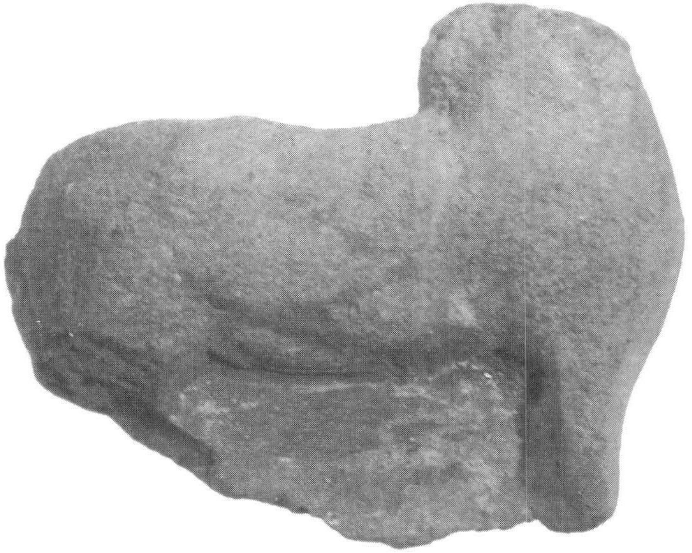
Taluk : Sirkazhi

District : Nagapattinam

Latitude : 11^0 09' N

Longitude : 79^0 52' E

It was unearthed during excavation conducted at Poompuhar. The collected antiquity is in highly corroded state. The Terracotta figurine is depicted with Sharp nose. Legs and hands are broken. It is measured to be 125 X 57 mm. The period of the antiquity may be assigned to 1st Century CE.



BULL

Place of find : Sekkadimedu
Taluk : Thanjavur
Distict : Thanjavur

Latitude : 10^{0} 47' N
Longitude : 79^{0} 08' E

It was found during exploration from the above site. The preserved bull was found without head. It is a caparisoned bull. Measurement of the antiquity is 62 x 50 mm. The date of this terracotta figurine may be fixed to 19th Century C E.

TORSO

Place of find	: Sekkadimedu	**Latitude**	: 10^0 47' N
Taluk	: Thanjavur	**Longitude**	: 79^0 08' E
District	: Thanjavur		

The collected terracotta is a leg portion of a man. The preserved antiquity exhibit features of a man from hip to toes. The legs are shown in stylistic posture. Legs are criss cross position.

Dimension of the antiquity is 47 x 36 mm. Date may be assigned to 19th Century C E.

TORSO - MAN

Place of find	: Sekkadimedu	**Latitude**	: 10^0 47' N
Taluk	: Thanjavur	**Longitude**	: 79^0 08' E
District	: Thanjavur		

The recovered terracotta figurine during exploration is a bust of a man found draped in suit. Hands are tucked in pockets. He may be a British.

The dimension of the antiquity is 60 x 51 mm. The date of the figurine may be 19th Century C E.

BUST OF FEMALE

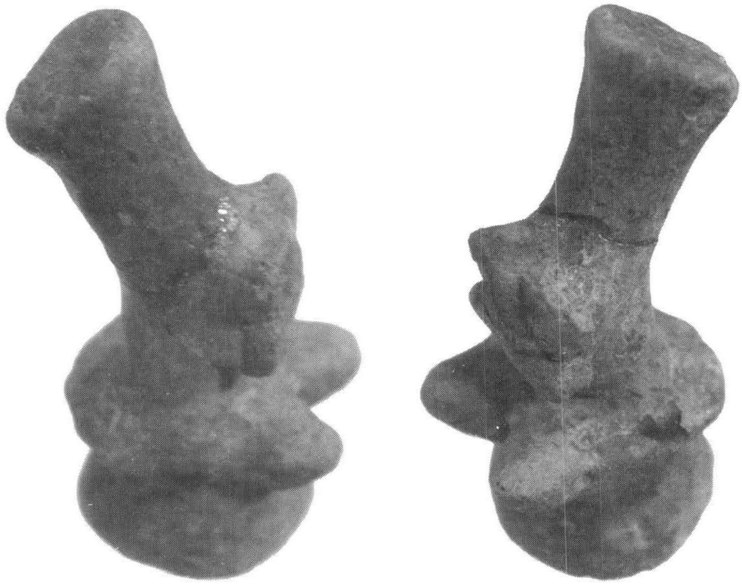
Place of find : Sendamangalam **Latitude** : 11^0 45' N

Taluk : Ulundurpettai **Longitude** : 79^0 23' E

District : Villupuram

The unearthed terracotta figurine from excavation is a bust portion of a female. It is black and crude in nature. This terracotta figurine is depicted on pedestal. Prominent breasts are noticed. Face of the female figure is depicted as bird. It is ascertained that the face closely resembles the face of an Owl.

It is measured to be 60 x 36 mm. The period of the antiquity may be assigned to 17th Century C E.



BUST OF FEMALE

Place of find	: Sendamangalam	**Latitude**	: 11^0 45' N
Taluk	: Ulundurpettai	**Longitude**	: 79^0 23' E
District	: Villupuram		

It was recovered during excavation conducted at Sendamangalam (1994-05). This bust portion of female is shown on pedestal. Breasts are prominently shown. Face of the terracotta female figurine is in mutilated state. Long headgear is seen. It is crude in nature.

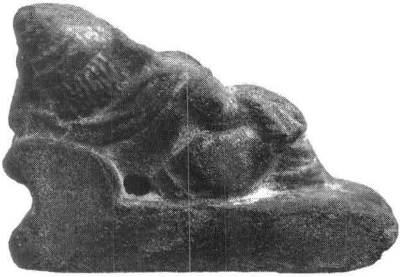
Measurement of the antiquity is 70 x 30 mm. It may be datable to 16th Century C E.

CRAWLING KRISHNA

Place of find	: Sendamangalam	**Latitude**	: 11^0 45' N
Taluk	: Ulundurpettai	**Longitude**	: 79^0 23' E
District	: Villupuram		

This crawling Krishna in terracotta form was unearthed from excavation conducted at Sendamangalam. This miniature antiquity is black in colour and crude in nature. Face is completely mutilated. Leg portions are broken.

Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 48 x 34 mm. It may be datable to 16th Century CE.



LORD GANESHA

Place of find : Srivilliputhur
Taluk : Srivilliputhur
District : Virudunagar

Latitude : 9^0 31' N
Longitude : 77^0 38' E

It was found during exploration from the above site. Ganesha is in reclined position on reclined bed. Salient features of god are well depicted.

Dimension of the terracotta figurine is 47 x 63 mm. It may be datable to 18th Century CE.

BALAKRISHNA

Place of find : Tirukoilur
Taluk : Tirukoilur
District : Villupuram

Latitude : 11^0 58' N
Longitude : 79^0 12' E

It was found during exploration from the above site. Face is completely defaced. Curly hair is shown. Ears are long and ornament is noticed around neck.

Dimension of the antiquity is 92 x 81mm. It may be assignable to 6th Century C E.

FEMALE MOTIF ON POT

Place of find : Tirukoilur

Taluk : Tirukoilur

District : Villupuram

Latitude : 11^0 58' N

Longitude : 79^0 12' E

It was unearthed from the trench-5 (TRK-5) at the depth of 2 mts. The preserved female figure is in appliqué technique. Bulged eyes, long ears with large size earlobes are seen. Ornament is shown around neck. Measurement of the antiquity is 68 x 71 mm. Period of the figurine may be fixed to 6th Century CE.

TORSO

Place of find : Tranquebar

Taluk : Tranquebar

District : Nagapattinam

Latitude : 11^0 02' N

Longitude : 79^0 52' E

It was collected during excavation from the above the site. The head of the terracotta male figurine is missing. Male figure is depicted with peculiar sitting posture. Long and thick ornament from neck to belly is seen. Cloth band around arm and chest is noticed. Male is depicted with dhoti.

It is measured to be 76 x 86 mm. It may be datable to 18th Century CE.

INDUS CIVILIZATION ANTIQUITIES - KALIBHANGAN, RAJASTHAN

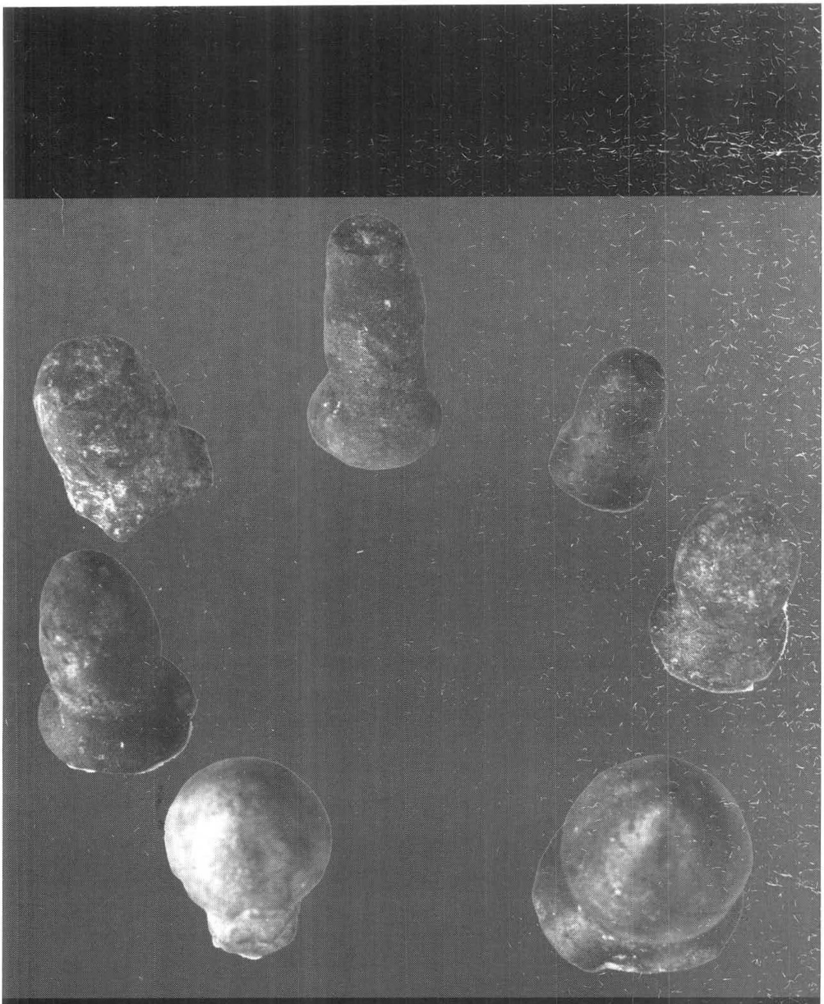
Khalibangan:

Kalibhangan, literally meaning black bangles, lies 310 km north-west of Delhi, in the left bank of the Ghagger river (anciently known as the Sarasvati). A town of the Harappan civilization on the Ghagger River in Rajasthan, India. The main occupation is of mature Harappan type, but the lower levels have yielded Pre-Harappan material. In the early phase (2900BC) an intact ploughed field has been discovered, indicating that the plough was already in use before the main Harappan period.

The trait of Indus Civilization, exposed through excavation at Mohenjadero and Harappa sites (now in Western Punjab, Pakistan) has been traced at number of sites in the State of Rajasthan and Gujarat. Kalibhangan, Rajasthan is one such site yielded valuable antiquities which furnish invaluable information on this civilization. Explored and unearthed antiquities include Moulded potsherds, Painted ware sherds, Terracotta figurine viz Humped Bull, Sheep (identified with curly hair). They are made of fine clay. The collections of Kalibhangan displayed in the exhibit room at Commissionerate of Archaeology, Chennai are the personal contributions of Dr.R.Nagaswamy. In fact, these special attractions of antiquities, certainly serve as media to throw light on the Indus Civilization. It is hoped that every visitors part with knowledge on the culture of Indus Valley People.

* * *

Special Exhibits at Chennai



GAMESMEN - BOLUVAMPATTI
COIMBATORE DISTRICT

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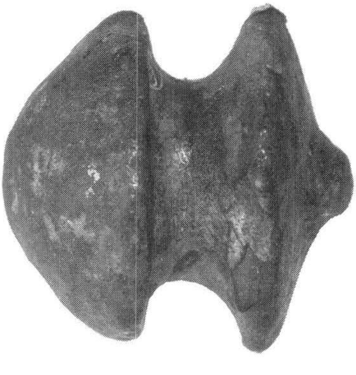
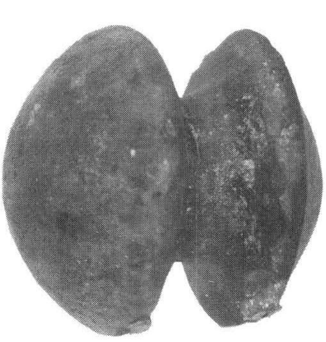
6. Know your district- Pamphlet-Geological Survey of India -125th Anniversary Celebrations (1851-1976).
7. Art of Terracotta cult & Cultural Synthesis in India – Arputha Rani Sengupta.
8. Thirukkoilur Excavation – Department of Archaeology.
9. Excavation at Perur – K.Ashok Vardhan Shetty, IAS.
10. Thamizhaga Agazhaivugal - Andipatti (2004-05) – T.S. Sridhar, IAS.
11. Excavation at Mangudi – K.Ashok Vardhan Shetty, IAS.
12. The principles of Petrology – G.W.Tyrrell.
13. Macmillan Dictionary of Archaeology – Ruth D. Whitehouse
14. A unique terracotta Bosindicus (Bull) Artefact from Andipatti excavation – Dr.S.Vasanthi.
15. Alagankulam An Ancient Roman Port City of Tamil Nadu, T.S.Sridhar, IAS.

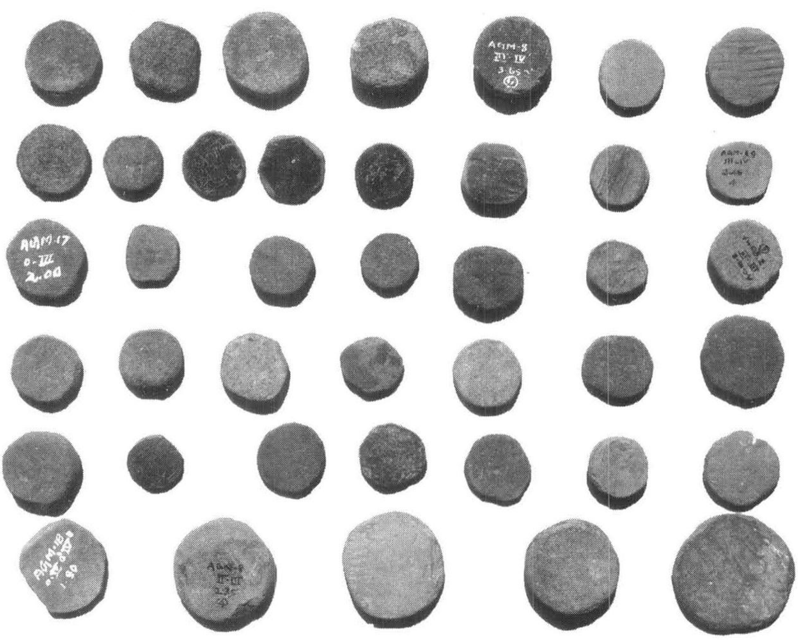
OTHER TERRACOTTA ANTIQUITIES

Ear Ornament

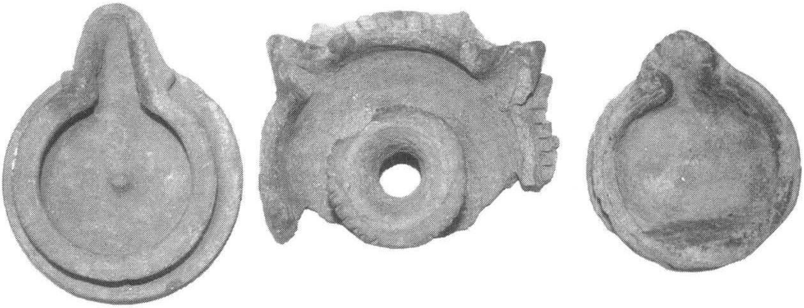




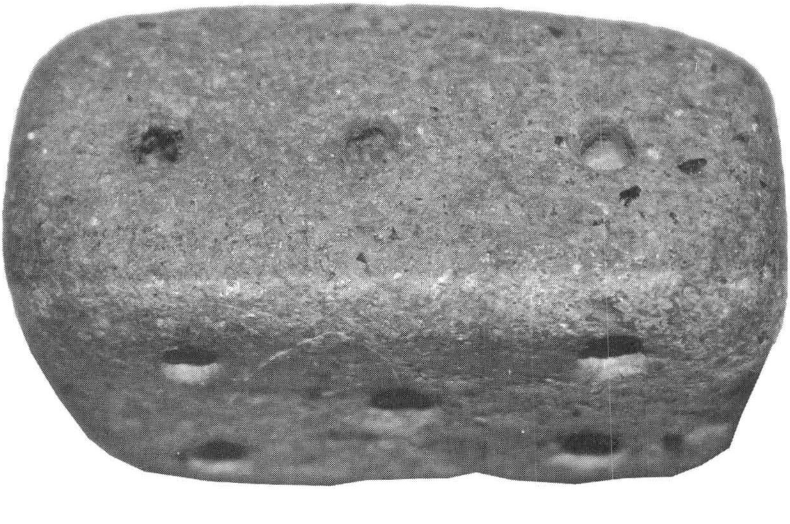
Smoking Pipe and Earlobes



Hip-Hops



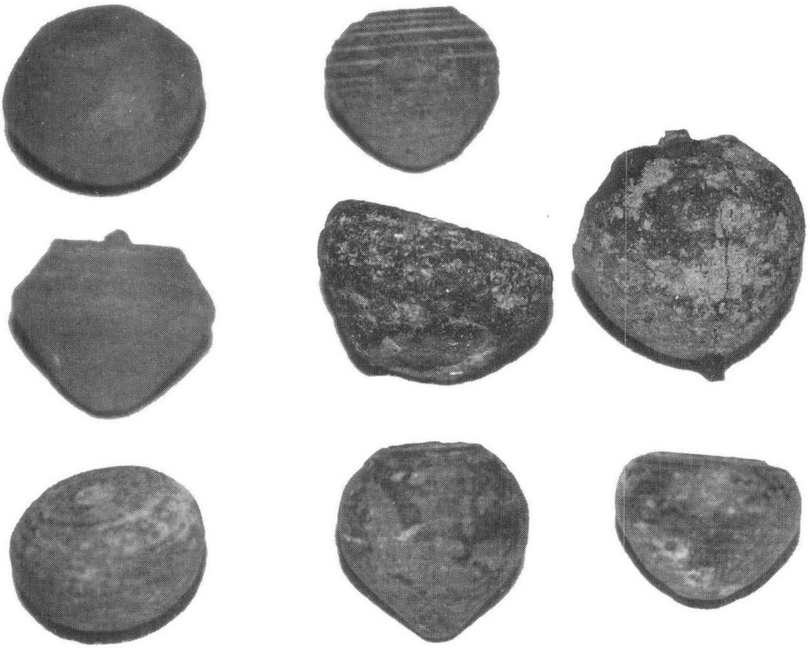
Lamps



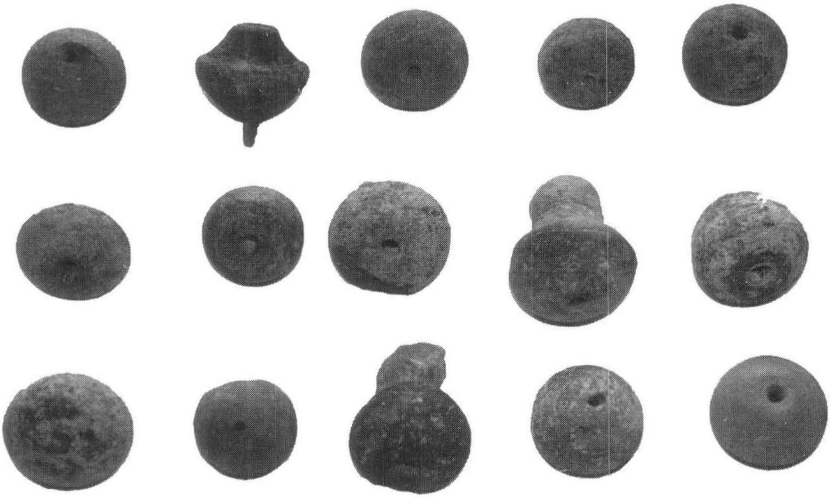
Dice

Spouts

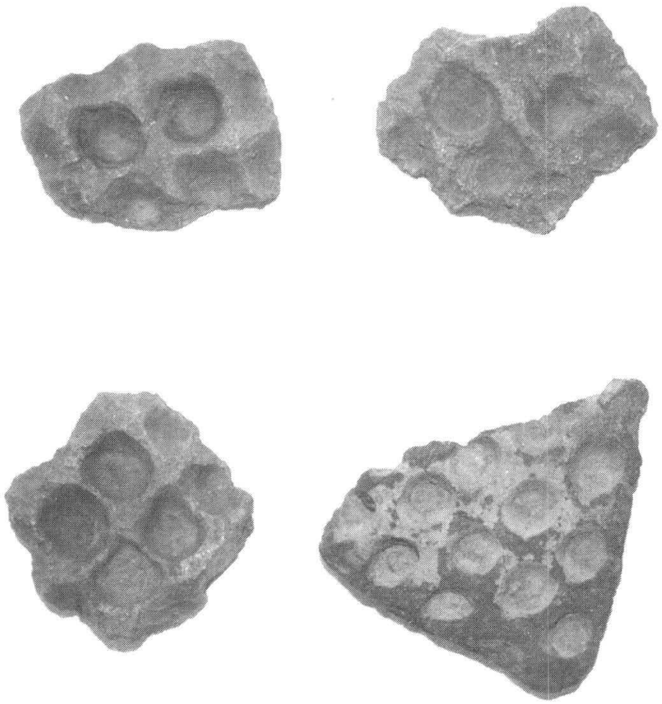
Knobs



Spindle Whorls



Spindle Whorls



Coin Moulds